

UNDERCONSTRUCTION"

the 36th Annual Wearable Art Show February 3 - 5, 2022

November 12, 2021

Wearable Artists we have figured it out!!!!

We've been working on how to do the Wearable Art Show as "normally" as possible for next year and we believe we have figured out how to do it. We will be getting applications out as soon as we can – so many thanks for all of your patience about this!!!

Not all of the things I am going to outline will make you (or us) happy – but we believe this is the best way to have our Wearable safely and as close as possible to normal.

First of all, we are over the moon thrilled to announce the first ever Youth Wearable Art Show in Ketchikan. It will be Saturday, March 26th, 2022, with the dress Friday, March 25th. This event will be for Wearable artists and models ages 13 and younger, and those who wish to be in the Youth performance. (In other words, if a 15-year-old would like to be in the Youth performance, they are so very welcome.) We will funnel all artists and models 13 and younger to the Youth Performance – including models who are modeling the work of artists that are over 13. We are really, really excited to focus on young artists and give them an opportunity to shine and grow. In addition to some members of the Wearable Art Show Committee planning the youth event, we will invite educators who teach Wearable Art to be part of the planning as well. The application process for youth under 13 will begin in January.

Artists and models who are 14 and older who wish to, will be in the February performance, February 3, 4, and two shows on the 5th. Since we will not have the added school groups – which will perform at the Youth Wearable Art Show, the matinee will be quite a bit different. We are partnering with Cape Fox Lodge to have a "Brunch and a Show" event. Cape Fox will design a brunch for Saturday late morning, complete with things like a Bloody Mary bar, or a Margarita bar, etc. plus food. We will start the matinee earlier in the day, at the finish of the brunch. Ticket price for the Matinee will still be greatly reduced for accessibility. People do not have to buy a brunch in order to attend the show – it's just a fun added opportunity.

First time Wearable artists will continue to start out in the Matinee only as a learning opportunity.

In terms of COVID mitigation for the venue, we have settled on the following strategies which we have worked on with Ted Ferry Civic Center restrictions, and in discussions with Public Health to devise.



Ketchikan Area Arts & Humanities Council

Creating and Promoting Opportunities to Experience the Arts and Explore the Humanities

First off, we will require everyone (artists, models, staff, volunteers, and audience members) to either show proof of being fully vaccinated or show proof of a certified negative Covid -19 test within 72 hours of attendance. For some of you, this will mean more than one test over the course of the event. We are working to see if we might be able to find rapid tests for those of you that might need them, but we can't totally promise that at this point.

Everyone will be required to wear masks unless they are seated. We will require masks to be incorporated into your Wearable pieces again this year.

We will stagger the arrival of artists and models so that there is less congestion backstage and – this really breaks my heart – we will not have the Grand Finale Walk at the end of the performances this year. Instead, we will ask that artist and models leave shortly after they perform. Yes, this is a huge bummer. But it will just be for this year because Covid has to be gone next year, right?

We have reduced the audience by about half. We have exchanged the theater seating for 8-top tables. We will sell tables rather than seats so people can stay within their bubbles. And, we will ask everyone to wear their masks unless they are seated at their table. Because we have reduced the capacity to half, we will not be able to offer artist comp tickets this year. HOWEVER, we are working on trying to figure out if we might be able to have volunteers and an artist comp person attend the dress rehearsal.

All of this allows the event to happen at the Ted Ferry Civic Center, serve alcohol, and if the restaurants still want to, serve food.

We have begun offering tickets to the major donors and members of the Ketchikan Area Arts and Humanities Council and should be on track to open up ticket sales to the general public by the Winter Arts Faire on November 27th.

We want you to know none of us, KAAHC staff, Wearable Art Show Committee, Public Health, Ted Ferry Civic Center staff, wanted to have to do the Wearable Art Show this way. But we know that the Wearable Artists of Ketchikan need an opportunity to create and showcase their art, and we need to make it possible for that to happen. We hope that if you cannot participate this year because of the mitigation strategies we have put in place, you will participate again in the years to follow.

Please email or call me if you have questions or ideas about the upcoming "Under Construction" the 36th Annual Wearable Art Show. <u>kathleenl@ketchikanarts.org</u> or 907-225-2211

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